## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES RICHMOND



JOE T. MAY

POST OFFICE BOX 2146

LEESBURG, VIRGINIA 20177-7538

THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

June 17, 2011

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CHAIRMAN) TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

The Honorable Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or transfer control of licenses and authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65).

## Dear Commissioners:

I represent the 33<sup>rd</sup> District, including all of Clarke County and part of Loudoun County, in the Virginia General Assembly, in which I am serving my eighth term. I am an electrical engineer and the holder of 22 patents. I founded my present business (EIT, LLC), which manufactures electronic products and sells them worldwide. I am very involved in technology issues in the General Assembly where I chair the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS).

As both an engineer and an entrepreneur, I can speak first-hand about leading-edge communications technology and its value in operating an enterprise. Through the Internet and electronic commerce, it is possible for our company to sell to and serve customers anywhere on the globe in ways that we could only imagine just a few years ago.

The expansion of opportunities for entrepreneurs and other citizens to use the Internet as conveniently and economically as possible should be a public policy priority on both the federal and state levels. The potential to stimulate economic activity, create jobs, and enhance people's lives is obvious. Wireless broadband access, which supports the use of smart phones and other mobile communications devices, is a key technology that can be utilized to increase access to the Internet for all Americans, including entrepreneurs, employees, and consumers.

In 2011, we believe that the federal government should make the decision to increase availability of 4<sup>th</sup> Generation wireless to take advantage of these opportunities. Approving the T-Mobile merger with AT&T is one of those key decisions.

The Honorable Marlene Dortch June 16, 2011 Page -2-

The combined companies would provide significantly better service and invest in and deploy wireless broadband with much greater speed. Under post-merger plans, high-speed wireless data service will be available to more than ninety seven percent of Americans, compared with a pre-merger view of eighty percent. The chief beneficiaries would be businesses and consumers in currently underserved areas – many of them small communities and rural areas.

For the benefit of Virginians, as well as Americans in all regions of our country, I ask the Commission to act favorably on the application.

Sincerely,

Joe T. May

Virginia House of Delegates

Room #504

P.O. Box 406, Richmond, VA 23218

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell